

Original

DUE: February 28, 2007, 4:30 pm

APPLICATION COVER SHEET

**Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319**

Application for ELL Technology Resource Grant

Applying Four-Year Institution

Program Director/Contact Person:

Name Amelia Holden-McMurray

Title Communications Specialist

Address Upper Iowa University Alumni House
605 Washington St. PO Box 1857
Fayette, IA 52142

Telephone 563-425-5231

Fax 563-425-5774

E-Mail holdena@uiu.edu

Does this institution have an ESL endorsement program? yes

Consortium Community College Institution (if applicable)

Program Director/Contact Person:

Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Fax _____

E-Mail _____

Does this community college have an education program? _____

Statement of Assurances

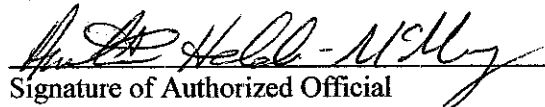
Should a Technology Award be made to the applicant in support of the activities proposed in this application, the authorized signature on the cover page of this application certifies to the Iowa Department of Education that the authorized official will:

1. Upon request, provide the Iowa Department of Education with access to records and other sources of information that may be necessary to determine compliance with appropriate federal and state laws and regulations;
2. Use grant funds to supplement and not supplant funds from nonfederal sources.

Certification by Authorized or Institutional Official:

The applicant certifies that to the best of his/her knowledge the information in this application is correct, that the filing of this application is duly authorized by the governing body of this organization, or institution, and that the applicant will comply with the attached statement of assurances.

Applying Four-Year Institution):

<u>Amelia Holden-McMurray</u>	<u>Communications Specialist</u>
Typed or Printed Name of Authorized Official	Title
<u></u>	<u>2/22/07</u>
Signature of Authorized Official	Date

Consortium Community College Institution (if applicable):

_____	_____
Typed or Printed Name of Authorized Official	Title
_____	_____
Signature of Authorized Official	Date

**Please submit to Mary Beth Schroeder Fracek, Iowa Department of Education,
Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146
by February 28, 2007, 4:30 p.m.**

Program Goals and Objectives

In 2006, Upper Iowa University received word that its ESL/ELL certification program would be certified by the state of Iowa. This was very exciting news for us, but left us with a significant challenge.

Located in rural Fayette, Iowa, the teacher educators at Upper Iowa University do not have ready access to many ESL/ELL classrooms. The residents of Fayette County and the surrounding counties (Chickasaw, Black Hawk, Delaware, Allamakee, Winneshiek, Clayton, Buchanan and Bremer) are predominantly Caucasian with very few minorities and even fewer non-English speaking families. According to the 2000 census, the percentage of homes in those nine counties where English is not the primary language ranges from 2.5 % in Delaware County to 8.2 % in Allamakee County. Allamakee County's numbers reflect the large foreign-born population in Postville, where 824 residents out of 2,121 total population report speaking a language other than English at home.

While Upper Iowa University works with the Postville School District in several areas, the district has many pulls on its resources due to its unique makeup in rural Iowa. Other districts in our area with significant ESL/ELL populations, specifically Black Hawk County where 6.5% of the population speaks a first language other than English, are located closer to the University of Northern Iowa. This draws heavily on the ESL/ELL opportunities for our students in that area.

As a result of these limitations, it is a challenge for us to provide our students with the opportunity to view teachers in ESL/ELL classrooms. Our students have limited opportunities to observe differentiated instruction situations. We are currently working with the Postville district on an agreement for student teacher and practicum placements, but other classes also require observation and interaction with these teachers and students.

We would like to use the Polycom unit to observe and interact with ESL/ELL teachers and students across the state. As part of our ESL/ELL certification, we have a class entitled Curriculum and Methods: ESL which would especially benefit from the Polycom equipment. In addition, we try to infuse ESL/ELL instruction into all our education classes, so the equipment has the potential to be used in any education course we offer. Students in our Birth to Elementary Methods class and Secondary Methods class would especially benefit from the equipment. It would allow our teacher educators to explain a concept in the classroom, such as how to teach a non-English-speaking student to read, and then allow the students to observe the practice in a classroom setting. Since all education majors are required to take one of the Methods courses, every education student at Upper Iowa's Fayette campus would benefit from the equipment.

The main goal we have with using the Polycom equipment is to reinforce what students are learning in the classroom setting. There is no substitute for classroom observation

and learning first hand. Our rural setting makes that difficult currently, but access to classrooms across the state would open those doors to our students.

Instruction using the Polycom unit would likely begin as soon as the equipment was purchased and installed and training was completed. Our teacher educators and education students are excited to gain first-hand observation of culturally and linguistically diverse classrooms. Once use of the unit begins, it will likely continue indefinitely.

Evaluation

The evaluation of the project would come primarily from pre- and post-session surveys of students based on the KWL concept: ask what they know and what they want to know before hand, then afterward ask what they learned. In addition to establishing the effectiveness of the Polycom unit as a teaching tool, it will allow our teacher educators to tailor instruction to students' needs.

Sustainability

The project we propose would be a continuation and enhancement of our current Methods classes, and potentially all classes. Once the grant money is used to purchase the required equipment, Upper Iowa University teacher educators would be able to link

with schools across the state and utilize the expertise of ESL/ELL teachers in helping teacher candidates better prepare for the classroom, thus allowing our students to gain first-hand observation of ESL/ELL practitioners in the classroom. This is an enhancement of what we currently do in our classroom.

We also hope to expand the use of the equipment in the future to our other sites in Iowa that offer teacher education programs: Waterloo and Des Moines. Currently, the Methods classes on the Fayette campus enroll approximately 40 students per year, while the same classes in Waterloo and Des Moines enroll between 50 and 60 students each. That is the potential to reach 150 students each year in the Methods classes alone. As we progress, we hope to expand the ESL/ELL certification program to those sites as well, and the Polycom unit would be a valued asset in that expansion.

It is also very likely that the longer we use the equipment, the more opportunities we will find to use it. As it becomes commonplace for us and the K-12 schools, there will likely be increased interaction on both ends and increased opportunities for ESL/ELL instruction.



STATE OF IOWA

THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR
SALLY J. PEDERSON, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
JUDY A. JEFFREY, DIRECTOR

November 20, 2006

Dr. Gail Moorman Behrens, Director of Teacher Education
Upper Iowa University
P.O. Box 1857
Fayette, IA 52142

Dear Dr. Moorman Behrens:

Geri McMahon, Jane Heinsen and I reviewed the curriculum exhibits and syllabi submitted for the following endorsement and found that they meet or exceed the requirements of the Board of Educational Examiners.

I am pleased to authorize the following updates:

- Professional Education Core K-6
- Professional Education Core 7-12

I am pleased to authorize the following endorsements/updates in endorsements:

- Endorsement # 102 Teacher Elementary Classroom K-6
- Endorsement # 104 ESL Teacher K-12
- Endorsement # 260 Instructional Strategist I: Mild and Moderate K-6
(Graduate and Undergraduate)
- Endorsement # 261 Instructional Strategist I: Mild and Moderate 7-12
(Graduate and Undergraduate)
- Endorsement # 263 Instructional Strategist II:
Behavior Disorders/ Learning Disabilities
(Undergraduate)
- Endorsement # 148 Reading K-6
- Endorsement # 149 Reading 7-12

The State commends you for continually improving the program at Upper Iowa University.
Sincerely,

Arlie Willems, Ph.D.
Practitioner Preparation

Grimes State Office Building - Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146
PHONE (515) 281-5294 FAX (515) 242-5988
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